

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Art Noonan, on March 18, 2009 at 3:01
P.M., in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Art Noonan, Chairman (D)
Rep. Robyn Driscoll, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)
Rep. Scott Reichner (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

Staff Present: Bryce Bennett, Committee Secretary
Todd Everts, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 290; SB 417

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 290

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:29 Sen. Verdell Jackson (R), SD 5, opened the hearing on SB 290, Revise duties of energy and telecommunications interim committee.

EXHIBIT (feh60a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:29 Mike Pichette, Northwestern Energy

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:08 Rep. Driscoll
00:07:51 Sen. Jackson
00:08:43 Rep. Phillips
00:09:53 Sen. Jackson
00:13:14 Rep. Phillips
00:13:41 Sen. Jackson
00:14:10 Rep. Wiseman
00:14:28 Sen. Jackson
00:15:27 Rep. Wiseman
00:16:16 Sen. Jackson
00:16:50 Rep. Wiseman
00:18:14 Sen. Jackson
00:19:12 Rep. Wiseman
00:20:07 Rep. Phillips
00:21:00 Sen. Jackson
00:21:22 Rep. Stahl arrived.
00:21:35 Rep. Phillips
00:21:48 Sen. Jackson
00:22:46 Chairman Noonan
00:24:29 Sen. Jackson

Closing by Sponsor:

00:25:57 Sen. Jackson

HEARING ON SB 417

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:40 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on
SB 417, Revise environmental impact laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:31:46 Don Allen, Western Environmental Trade Organization
(WETA)
00:36:06 Jon Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce
00:37:31 Leo Berry, Great Northern Properties/ Great Northern
Project Development
00:40:21 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors Association
00:42:11 Steve Wade, Carpenter Creek LLC, Carbon County Holdings
LLC
00:44:28 Dan Flynn, International Brotherhood of Electric
Workers (IBEW) - Local #44

Opponents' Testimony:

00:45:01 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon
00:49:06 Paul Sihler, Field Services Division Administrator,
Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

EXHIBIT (feh60a02)

00:52:44 Bob Adams, self
00:57:32 Beth Kaeding, Chair, Northern Plains Resource Council
01:01:07 Anne Hedges, Montana Environmental Information Center
(MEIC)
01:03:48 Ali Bovingdon, Office of the Attorney General
01:04:36 Sarah Cobler, Montana Conservation Voters (MCV)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:09:31 Rep. Phillips
01:10:09 Sen. Keane
01:10:39 Rep. Phillips
01:11:06 Sen. Keane
01:11:28 Rep. Phillips
01:11:35 Sen. Keane
01:11:54 Rep. Phillips
01:12:41 Sen. Keane
01:13:26 Rep. Phillips
01:14:07 Sen. Keane
01:14:23 Rep. Reichner

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01:14:43 Sen. Keane
01:14:48 Rep. Reichner
01:15:10 Sen. Keane
01:15:28 Rep. Reichner
01:16:08 Sen. Keane
01:16:54 Rep. Reichner
01:17:58 Mr. Sihler
01:18:49 Rep. Phillips
01:20:06 Sen. Keane
01:21:04 Rep. Phillips
01:21:16 Sen. Keane
01:21:25 Rep. Phillips
01:21:40 Chairman Noonan
01:23:41 Sen. Keane

Closing by Sponsor:

01:25:30 Sen. Keane

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ADJOURNMENT

01:27:58 Adjournment: 4:29 P.M.

Bryce Bennett, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([feh60aad.pdf](#))